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Nordmeccanica Vacuum plant dedicated; new metallizing systems demonstrated

May 19, 2014

Italian converting-machinery maker Nordmeccanica Group officially dedicated its new Nordmeccanica Vacuum Srl plant in Piacenza, Italy, last Friday before an audience of 500+ industry professionals, customers, suppliers and packaging brand owners from across the globe. Along with a half-day Intl. Summit for Packaging technical conference, the event introduced two of the company's new vacuum-metallizing systems via live demonstrations.



Nordmeccanica Group president Antonio Cerciello welcomed several dignitaries, including local and national politicians, and representatives from two Chinese plastics organizations, to the ribbon-cutting ceremony.

"We spent the last year integrating the technology of Galileo Vacuum Systems (which Nordmeccanica acquired in January 2013) into our operation, revamped things and the first machine was installed last month," he said. "We have outstanding partners and designed our machinery from scratch in only one year. Nordmeccanica controls the Chinese market for coating, laminating and now metallizing machinery."

The Vacuum Div. will contribute to the overall success of the company. With currently 300 employees worldwide, sales were €82 million in 2013. Cerciello says sales this year will likely increase 20%, reaching €102 million based on orders that are already on the books. The company forecasts that 80 more jobs at the company are expected to be created in the next six months. The new plant, about 300,000 sq ft, opening in the midst of the Italian recession is clearly a positive thing, Cerciello says.

Metallizers on display

Demo'd during the open house was the Nordmet 12 F vacuum metallizer—a 1,300-mm film width system that handles rolls to 1,000 mm in diameter at speeds to 960 mpm. The unit, capable of 2,700 tonnes/yr output, has been sold to Cevikbas Flexible Packaging in Turkey. Both a full coat and pattern metallization was shown.

Also on display was a Megamet 20 11 F system—a 2,020-mm-wide metallizer able to run 1,100-mm roll diameters at 840 mpm. The 4,400-tonnes/yr equipment has been purchased by Shengxia Innovative Pharmaceutical & Food Packaging in China.

Fall 2014 commercialization of two other vacuum-metallizer models are planned: The Powermet 25-34 with 2,500-3,400 mm widths, 1,270-mm roll diameters and speeds to 1,080 mpm; and the Nordmet 20-25 with 2,000-2,500 mm widths, 1,000-mm roll diameters and 960-mpm throughput.

"For Nordmeccanica, innovation is simplification," explained Vincenzo Cerciello, technical mgr. "Working in partnership with customers and suppliers, we re-engineered [Galileo systems] to simplify them. By standardizing on high technology today, we're able to access more reasonable costs. Customers count on our reputation and reliability. The difference allows our customers to do complicated processes in a simplified way.

"Nordmeccanica has a 75% share in markets where we're active," he continued. "We want to lead in markets where there's growth such as in packaging and metallization. Using plastic films with metal layers ultimately has a lower cost versus other materials or multiple materials. Half of our customers use metallized products in their converting."

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